Abraham Orescas continued to work unremittingly under the patronage of the Aragonese Court until 1387. On his death in that year, his son, Jahuda (the Compass or Map Jew, as he was popularly called), who had long been associated with him, inherited his reputation and his clientele, and we find his former patron, now King of Aragon, commissioning a new "mapamundi" from him to replace that sent to France.

In the wave of forced baptisms which swept through Spain-in 1391, Jahuda Crescas was compelled to change his religion. Henceforth he was called Jayme Ribes. But he was too useful to be allowed to change his occupation, and he was summoned to Barcelona to conduct his work in the immediate neighbourhood of the Court. On the death of his patron and of the latter's successor, Martin I, who had continued his scientific interests, Jayme Ribes was invited by Prince Henry the Navigator to Portugal; and here, where he was known as Maestre Jacomo de Majorca, he was the first director of the famous nautical observatory at Sagres, cradle of the Portuguese discoveries, where the expeditions were prepared which resulted in the rounding of the Cape of Good Hope and the discovery of the sea-route to India.

Another Jewish cartographer of Majorca (who is conjectured to have belonged to Abraham Orescas' family) was Haym ibn Risch, He, too, became converted at the time of the persecutions in 1391, adopting the name of Juan de Vallsecha. He was probably

the father of the Gabriel de Vallsecha who executed in 1439 another famous "mapamundi"—now one of the treasures of the Institute of Catalan Studies in Barcelona, for it belonged to Amerigo Vespucci—in which the meridian of the Azores is used for the first time in the history of cartography. Yet another Majorcan cartographer of Jewish birth was Mecia de Viladestes, a map by whom,